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Bethel A.M.E. Church

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BETHEL
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1525 Michigan Avenue,
Buffalo, New York 14209

32nd ANNUAL LAY DAY

Sunday, October 12, 1997
10:30 a.m.



The Right Reverend Philip R. Cousin, Presiding Bishop
Reverend Ernestine M. Ward, Presiding Elder
Reverend Richard A. Stenhouse, Pastor

Reverend William Cobb, Jr. Reverend Betsy A. Crumity
Reverend Leeland Jones, Jr. Reverend Percy Jones
Reverend Thomas A. Moore Rev. Pedro Castro

32nd ANNUAL LAY DAY

Sunday, October 12, 1997

10:30 a.m. Service

ORGAN PRELUDE

INTROIT

J. Carl Bland

Minister: The Lord be with you:

Congregation: And with Thy spirit

Minister: O Lord, show Thy mercy upon us:

Congregation: And grant us Thy salvation.

Minister: O God, make clean our hearts within us

Congregation: And take not Thy Holy Spirit from us.

Minister: O lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world

Congregation: GRANT US THY PEACE. AMEN.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

#519

"The Church's One Foundation"

DOXOLOGY

Trustee Meredith Anding

CALL TO WORSHIP

MORNING HYMN

Sis. Delores Stokes

"The Layman's Hymn" (See insert)

MOMENT OF MEDITATION

"I Love The Lord"

MORNING PRAYER

Bro. Jesse Chase

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Glory, Glory, Hallelujah"

PSALTER

Sis. Dorothy Black

Psalms 29: 1 - 4

LAY LITANY

(See insert)

Bro. Nelson Townsend

SELECTION

The Male Chorus

"He Never Failed Me"

BETHEL'S LAY ORGANIZATION HISTORY

Sis. Diane Townsend

MISSIONARY PRAYER
MISSIONARY OFFERING

Sis. Pearl Richardson

"I Want to Be More Like Jesus"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Marjorie Butler

CHURCH SCHOOL REVIEW

Bro. Celes Tisdale

DEDICATORY

Sis. Bessie Robinson

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF VISITORS

Sis. Elnora Turner

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Steward Bettye Wyatt

Trustee Raymond Walton

OFFERTORY

**"All Things Come of Thee, O' Lord
and of Thine own have we given Thee, Amen."**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Sis. Delores Davis

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

Sis. Carolyn B. Thomas

SERMONIC SELECTION "Jesus With Me"

Male Chorus

SPEAKER

Atty. David Edmunds, Jr.

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

#257 "Just as I Am, Without One Plea"

Rev. Richard A. Stenhouse

THE INVITATION TO LAY ORGANIZATION

Trustee Meredith Anding

ALTAR CALL

Rev. Richard A. Stenhouse

"I've Decided to make Jesus My Choice"

THE LAY PLEDGE (See insert)

Sis. Leola Alexander

DOXOLOGY

LAY BENEDICTION (See insert)

Trustee Meredith Anding

**COFFEE HOUR IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING SERVICE**

THE LAYMEN'S HYMN

(Tune - "Guide Me Oh Thou Great Jehovah)

Laymen now have thus assembled, in the blessed name oh God
Guide us in our true endeavor, light the pathway that we trod;
Give us strength to ever labor for thy cause.
Give us strength to ever labor for thy cause.

We are banded, one in union, to fulfill thy just command.
May we be thy true disciples, holding to thy mighty hand;
Give us blessings, from the fountain of thy love.
Give us blessings, from the fountain of thy love.

As we walk this Christian journey, let us keep our armor bright.
Let our works be pure and holy that we stand within thy sight.
Laymen soldiers, strong in unity and love.
Laymen soldiers, strong in unity and love.

May we stand before thine altar, pledging Lord to work for thee.
In the vineyard, in the pastures let us Lord thy pilgrims be;
Let us lift the cross forever to the skies.
Let us lift the cross forever to the skies.

THE LAY PLEDGE

For God, The Church, The Community in Which We Reside,
It is My Solemn Pledge to Uphold and Defend the Church
And Its Laws by which it is Governed; To Display Good Christian
Love, Harmony and Unity at All Times; To Further Christian Education
and to Promote Goodwill Toward Mankind Through God Our Father. Amen.

LAY BENEDICTION

May God Bless us with the True Spirit of Christianity,
That we may live together, not as man over man, but
as Laypersons working with God.

THE LAY LITANY

- Leader:** In grateful recognition of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the giver of every perfect gift, and who has richly blessed us with health and strength of body and mind and soul to do our daily tasks:
- Response:** We consecrate ourselves to Thee, O Lord.
- Leader:** For the worship of God, the Father, and Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord and Saviour, and to the Holy Spirit:
- Response:** We consecrate ourselves to Thee, O Lord.
- Leader:** For the preaching of the Gospel of Christ, our Lord, and for the administration of the Holy Sacraments; for the exposition of the Word of God in the edifying of the Body of Christ:
- Response:** We consecrate ourselves to Thee, O Lord.
- Leader:** For the maintenance of the ordained ministry of the Church, the service of the sacred music, the care of the sanctuary, and the promotion of Christian fellowship and the spiritual life:
- Response:** We consecrate ourselves to Thee, O Lord.
- Leader:** For the ministry of the Lay persons in our Church whose daily living must reflect an earnest effort to live according to the teachings and examples of our Lord Jesus Christ:
- Response:** We consecrate ourselves to Thee, O Lord.
- Leader:** To the demand of Christ, to reach out to other persons who need our help, especially to the young who are searching for answers to the many problems with which our racist society confuses them:
- Response:** We consecrate ourselves to Thee, O Lord.

Leader:

**For the ministry to comfort to all who mourn,
for the ministry of guidance to all who stray,
that forgiveness and salvation from our Lord
Jesus Christ might be received by them as us:**

Response:

We consecrate ourselves to Thee, O Lord.

Leader:

**For the witness of the gospel message of light
and salvation through Christ unto the uttermost
parts of the earth, and for the support of all
the departments and agencies of the A.M.E. Church:**

Response:

We consecrate ourselves to Thee, O Lord.

Leader:

**For the heritage, the doctrine, and the philosophy
of our Church, and for the spirit of Richard Allen
which continues to inspire us:**

Response:

We thank Thee, O Lord.

Leader:

**As the expression of our Christian stewardship in
honoring Thee, O Holy Lord and Heavenly Father,
with our substance and the dedication of our
talents and our personalities and possessions to
Thy service:**

Response:

We consecrate ourselves to Thee, O Lord, AMEN.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Music this morning is provided by the Male Chorus under the direction of Sis. Connie Smith. God bless you for your music ministry. Please see Rev. Crumity for Sunday service audio tapes.

Please give to the Improvement Fund, your gift of \$5 or more will assist the church in meeting our past obligations. Thank You.

Please use each of your offering envelopes, the church depends on your consistent financial support.

The Lay Organization Birthday Calendar Drive is open until October 12, 1997, \$3.50 per name. Please give your name to any member of the Lay Organization.

The Stewardess Board #2 will hold an important meeting Monday, October 13, at 11 a.m.

Trustee Board will meet on Tuesday, October 14, at 7 p.m.

The Bethel-Aires will rehearse Tuesday, October 7 at 7 p.m.

The Gospel Choir rehearses on Saturday's at 3 p.m. If you are interested in joining please attend.

Sis. Jill Bronner, wife of Rev. Troy A. Bronner of Calvary Baptist Church, will be our distinguished guest speaker on Sunday October 19, for our Pre-Women's Day.

Please join Rev. Stenhouse in Bible Study every Wednesday at 12 Noon & 7 p.m. All are welcome.

Credit Union hours: Thursday's 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. & Sunday's 12 Noon - 1:30 p.m.

Join our Prayer Warriors Group, on Thursday's at 8:00 a.m.

✓ The Bethel GED Program is located on the third floor and is held Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Students can register for classes and begin the same day.

✓ The YWCA of Western New York will celebrate it's 3rd Annual "Week Without Violence Campaign", October 19 - 25, 1997. Sunday, October 19, a Day of Remembrance Church Service and Candlelight Vigil entitled "Honoring The Peacekeepers" will be held at St. John Baptist Church. All are welcome to attend. For more information please call 852-6120.

✓ Anyone interested in attending the 6th Annual Marcus Garvey Awards Ceremony and Banquet at the Buffalo Convention Center, please contact the church office. Tickets are \$30.00 NOV. 15 6pm

✓ Anyone interested in donating an old or new floor lamp to the Afterschool Program please see Rev. Castro or Bro. Cles Tisdale.

THANK YOU

To all who assisted in the repast for Sis. Beulah Jones.

UPDATE OF THE CHURCH DIRECTORY

All members are asked to fill out this form and submit it to Sis. Sharon Stenhouse or Sis. Rose Castro to update the church directory.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

NUMBER OF YEARS AT BETHEL _____

ORGANIZATIONS/CLUBS/ COMMITTEES _____

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Sis. Ruthetta Scott-Smikle for her appointment to the City of Buffalo property Re-evaluation Committee. Any member wishing to have their property re-assessed write to :

**City of Buffalo Property Re-evaluation Committee
City Hall
Buffalo, New York 14201**

Also to

Sis. Beatrice Anderson who is the newly appointed Director of the BF&C MOOT Senior Citizen Center. New membership registration now open to all interested seniors.

* * * * *

Dedicatory Sunday, October 12, 1997

The flowers that grace the altar today are placed in cherished memory of my beloved wife, Georgia Hinson who entered into rest on October 12, 1992;

I have missed the sound of your footsteps
And your voice since you have gone.
And although I no longer see you
In my memory you live on.
And so I smile in the day time,
But come night, my heart is sad,
As I think of you dear Georgia

God took you away to His distant and golden share.
Loved and sadly missed by your devoted husband, William Hinson.

The other basket of flowers are placed to all members celebrating a birthday in the month of October by Sarah Fogan.

May this birthday be just the beginning
of a year filled with happy memories,
wonderful moments
and shining dreams.



Remembering our Homebound

Mattie Adams
Lucretia Burns
Bertha Campbell
Tina Cook
Cheryl Costley
Cena Crable
Dollie Davis
Alice Davenport
Sarah Hall
Inez Harris
Jimmie Hawkins
Jessica Johnson
Orea K. Lidge
Samuel McMillian
Julia Moore
Ellen Morse
Lillian Parker
Florence Scott
Vernon Taylor
Lillian Tucker
Pat Turner
Clay Wilson

27 Harwood Place
36 Durham Avenue
241 Herman Street
8 Elton Place
127 Bissell Avenue
42 Butler Avenue
100 Florida Street
206 Brunswick Blvd.
55 Woodlawn Avenue
St. John's Tower, 865 Michigan Ave.
46 Pansy
120 Meyer Rd. Apt. 200
64 Welker
326 Northampton
82 Sussex
26 Laurel St.
1015 Delaware Ave. Apt # 1201
LBJ Apts. #902
21 Victor
300 Peach Street
45 Glenwood
34 Langmeyer



Hospital Patients

Leonard Garr
Mamie Hayes
King Peoples
Idella Pope
Vassie Smith
Lula Smith
Joseph Thompson

Deaconess Nursing Home
Sister's Hospital Nursing Home Rm. 809
Buffalo General Hospital
St. Andrews Presbyterian Manor Rm. 322D
Buffalo General Hospital
Delaware Heights Rm. 431D, 1014 Delaware
Bridgewell Nursing Home, Main & Amherst